

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording apparatus,
comprising:

an ink container containing ink;

an ink jet head, which includes having an ink supply port
communicating with the ink container via an ink supply channel,
to discharge the ink from a nozzle as ink droplets; and

a filter unit, which is provided in the ink supply channel
at a position higher than the ink supply port of the ink jet
head, and which comprises a filter that includes a plurality
of having plural through holes to filter the ink flowing through
the ink supply channel; [[,]]

wherein the filter is slanted in the filter unit with
respect to a horizontal surface and provided in the ink supply
channel in a position higher than the ink supply port and is
formed by a metal plating process to guide bubbles generated
under the filter, downstream of the filter in an ink flowing
direction, to a peripheral section of the filter; and

wherein the bubbles collected at the peripheral section pass
upward through the filter.

2. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording apparatus
according to claim 1, ~~further comprising: a filter unit having~~

~~the filter, provided in the ink supply channel,~~ wherein ~~[[:]]~~ the filter unit ~~has~~ comprises an inflow opening through which the ink flowing through the ink supply channel enters the filter unit and an outflow opening ~~from~~ through which the ink passed through the filter ~~goes out~~ exits the filter unit; and

wherein the inflow opening is wider than the outflow opening so as to cause bubbles in the filter unit ~~move to the outside to~~ flow upstream out from the filter unit.

3. (Currently Amended) The ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the filter unit ~~has~~ comprises a slant portion to guide the bubbles in the filter unit to the inflow opening.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled).

7. (Original) The ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ink container holds pigment ink containing pigment as the ink.

8. (Original) The ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the ink container holds pigment ink containing pigment as the ink.

9 (Original) The ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the ink container holds pigment ink containing pigment as the ink.

Claims 10-12 (Canceled).